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<b>Notice of Allowability</b>	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/623,595	SOMURA, ATSUSHI	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Edwin A. León	2833	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

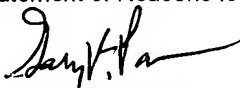
1. ☐ This communication is responsive to \_\_\_\_\_.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-8.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 23 July 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☒ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
    1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
  - \* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)            |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),<br>Paper No./Mail Date <u>07/2003</u> | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment                               |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br>of Biological Material                              | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance   |
|   | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____  |

  
 Gary Paumen  
 Primary Examiner

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Allowable Subject Matter*

1. Claims 1-8 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Fan (U.S. Patent No. 6,478,617) discloses a receptacle (10) comprising: a housing (12) placed on a printed circuit board (Column 1, Lines 43-46) and having an insertion hole (14) and an elongate metal member (20) covering the housing (12) for fixing the housing (12) onto the printed circuit board (Column 1, Lines 43-46); the housing (12) having a positioning recess (36) formed in a peripheral surface portion (18) thereof not opposed to the printed circuit board (Column 1, Lines 43-46) as having a shape complementary to that of the elongate member (20). See Figs. 1-3.

Reisenger (U.S. Patent No. 5,863,210) discloses a receptacle comprising: a housing (10) placed on a printed circuit board (Column 2, Lines 1-2) and having an insertion hole (hole shown in Fig. 1) and an elongate metal member (40) covering the housing (10) for fixing the housing (10) onto the printed circuit board (Column 2, Lines 1-2); the housing (10) having a positioning protrusion (28) formed in a peripheral surface portion (wall shown in Fig. 3) thereof not opposed to the printed circuit board (Column 2, Lines 1-2) as having a shape complementary to an aperture (50) of the elongate member (20). See Figs. 1-3.

However, the references fail to teach, disclose, or suggest, either alone or in combination, a photoelectric converter housed in the housing for transferring and receiving an optical signal to/from the received optical signal transmission plug and a flange overhanging the positioning recess; wherein the elongate member is fixedly fitted in the positioning recess in engagement with the flange; wherein the elongate member has projections respectively projecting from opposed portions thereof with the housing held between the opposed portions and in combination with the rest of the limitations of the base claim.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

### ***Conclusion***


2. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Flickinger et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,524,134), Broadfield et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,782,646), Hwang (U.S. Patent No. 6,508,670), Meister (U.S. Patent No. 6,746,282) and Lee (U.S. Patent No. 6,450,835) disclose receptacles having housings and elongated metal members with projections.

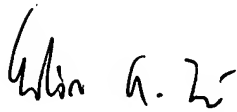
Art Unit: 2833

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Edwin A. León whose telephone number is (571) 272-2008. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 10:00-6:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Paula A. Bradley can be reached on 571-272-2800, extension 33. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

  
Gary Paumen  
Primary Examiner

  
Edwin A. Leon  
AU 2833

EAL  
September 29, 2004